

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SANA 01558 021208Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /011 W
-----081502 021210Z /21

R 020949Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4319
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 1558

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SCUL, YE
SUBJECT: JEWISH CEMETERY IN TAIZ: TOMB OF SHALOM SHABAZI

REF: STATE 83632

1. THERE ARE NO AID EMPLOYEES LIVING IN TAIZ SO EMBASSY
WILL SEND SOMEONE FROM SANA AT EARLIEST CONVENIENT TIME TO
GOO LOOK AT SHABAZI'S TOMB.

2. WEST GERMAN EMBASSY IN SANA WAS REQUESTED TO DO
PRECISELY THE SAME THING ABOUT SIX MONTHS AGO AND SENT
REPORT ON TOMB TO SPEAKER OF KNESSET THROUGH
SPEAKER OF BUNDESTAG.

3. ACCORDING TO IBRAHIM AL-KIBISI, WHO RECENTLY RETURNED TO
YEMEN AFTER SEVERAL YEARS AS DEPUTY IN WASHDC EMBASSY
"SOME RABBI" CONTACTED HIM, ALSO, ABOUT SHABAZI'S TOMB
AND SPECIFICALLY ASKED HIM TO REQUEST COOPERATION ON
BEHALF OF YEMENI GOVERNMENT TO EXPORT SHABAZI'S
REMAINS TO ISRAEL. AL-KIBISI FORWARDED REQUEST TO YARG
FOREIGN MINISTRY BUT NEVER HAD A REPLY. AL-KIBISI THEN
TOOK IT ON HIMSELF TO TELL RABBI THAT REQUEST HAD BEEN
DENIED.

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COMMENT: WE HAVE ASKED OURSELVES WHETHER ANYONE
IN THE DEPARTMENT AGREES WITH US THAT THE QUESTION OF
REMOVING TO ISRAEL WHATEVER REMAINS OF MAN BURIED IN
TAIZ SEVERAL CENTURIES AGO IS SLIGHTLY DOTTY IDEA. WE
FIND IT DIFFICULT IN ANY CASE TO PURSUE THIS MATTER WITH
SAME SERIOUSNESS AS PROPOSED VISIT BY AMERICAN JEWS OF YEMENI
ORIGIN TO CONTACT THEIR CORELIGIONISTS HERE. LATTER

EFFORTS SEEMS IMPORTANT AND USEFUL EMBASSY FUNCTION
WHY DON'T WE TELL TOURGEMAN THAT VISIT BY GRUEN
GROUP WOULD BE GOOD TIME TO TAKE UP SHABAZI PROJECT?
SCOTES

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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